

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 21366 221822Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----039925 221849Z /40

P 221715Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6102
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 21366

EXDIS

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR WELLS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: FR, AORG, UN, OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW)
SUBJECT: ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER'S DEMARCHE TO
AMBASSADOR YOUNG ON UN RESTRUCTURING

REF: PARIS 20971

1. ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER TAITTINGER'S SPECIAL REQUEST FOR PRIVATE "POLITICAL" MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG TURNED OUT TO BE LARGELY AN UNDIRECTED AND GENERALIZED "GETTING TO KNOW YOU" SESSION. THE ONE SUBSTANTIVE MATTER WHICH TAITTINGER RAISED-- AND STRONGLY EMPHASIZED -- WAS FRANCE'S DEEP INTEREST IN RETAINING FOR ITS NOMINEE THE POST OF UN UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (USYG/ESA), AND ESPECIALLY TO PROTECT THIS POST AGAINST POSSIBLE LOSS OF POWER AND PRESTIGE AS A RESULT OF THE UN "RESTRUCTURING" EXERCISE.

2. TAITTINGER SPECIFICALLY ASKED THAT USG SUPPORT THE NOMINATION OF JEAN RIPERT (THE COMMISSIONER OF FRANCE'S
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NATIONAL PLAN) FOR THE POST OF USYG/ESA. YOUNG REPLIED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN HAVING THE US SUPPORT THIS NOMINATION. HE SAID THERE WERE VARIOUS UNKNOWN IN THE UN RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE AND THAT IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER, AT THE UNGA, THE LDC'S WILL WANT TO PUT SOMEONE TO REPRESENT THEM IN A NEW SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION.

3. QUAI UN DIRECTOR LECOMPT, WHO JOINED TAITTINGER FOR THIS PART OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG, EMPHASIZED THAT GOF SUPPORTS EFFORTS FOR UN RESTRUCTURING, AND FAVORS 7 OF THE 8 POINTS OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING--BUT IS OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSAL FOR CREATING THE POST OF DIRECTOR GENERAL. LECOMPT ADDED THAT GOF BELIEVES THAT THE OTHER RESTRUCTURING PROPOSALS WOULD CONTRIBUTE EFFECTIVELY TO SOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF MANAGEMENT, BUT HAS DOUBTS ABOUT THE US COUNTERPROPOSAL FOR A DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL, PARTICULARLY IF THAT POST GOES TO AN LDC NOMINEE SINCE HE WOULD ATTEMPT TO GET THE POWERS FORESEEN FOR THE "DIRECTOR GENERAL" IN THE CURRENT RESTRUCTURING REPORT.

4. AMBASSADOR YOUNG SAID THAT, WITH REGARD TO GOF VIEWS ON THE UN RESTRUCTURING EFFORT, HE WOULD INFORM HIS GOVERNMENT OF THIS DEMARCHE ON THE PART OF GOF.

5. AMBASSADOR YOUNG DID NOT SEE THIS TELEGRAM BEFORE DEPARTING.
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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